Amendments to the Claims

The amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this amendment.

1. (Currently amended) An ionically conductive polymeric composition ~~for coating an implantable cardiac stimulus electrode~~ comprising a polymer and an ionic medium ~~admixed with said polymer, said~~ wherein the polymer ~~having~~ has a molecular weight from about 100,000 to about 10,000,000 daltons and is not adhesive, and the composition has a conductive impedance value between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz when used as a coating on an implantable cardiac stimulus electrode ~~large enough to avoid solubilization of the polymer or the ionic medium when an electrode coated with said composition is used for its intended purpose~~.

2. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is ~~chosen from the group consisting of~~ polyethylene oxide, polyethylene terpthalate, hydrogels, ~~and~~ or polyacrylates.

3. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein ~~said~~ the polymer is polyethylene oxide having a molecular weight of about 100,000-~~10,000,000~~ 5,000,000 daltons.

4. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionic medium is NaCl or another ~~similarly~~ ionizable compound that does not ~~significantly~~ alter a human recipient's body chemistry during the period of time that an electrode coated with said composition is implanted.

5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one ~~a~~ steroid, inorganic filler, antithrombotic agent, anticoagulant agent, anti-infection agent, or thrombolytic agent.

6. Cancelled.

7. Cancelled.

26. (Previously added) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionically conductive polymeric composition comprises an electrically conductive ionic species.

27. Cancelled.

28. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, ~~wherein the ionically conductive polymeric composition~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising plasticizer salts.

29. Cancelled.

30. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~6~~ 5, wherein the inorganic filler is ~~selected from the group consisting of high surface area~~ alumina, ~~and high surface area~~ silica, or a combination thereof.

31-36. Cancelled.

37. (Currently amended) An ionically conductive polymeric composition comprising:
5-10% by weight polyethylene oxide; and
1-2% by weight NaCl,
wherein the composition has a conductive impedance value between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz.

38. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 further comprising a solvent in a 50:50 volume ratio alcohol:water.

39. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein the polyethylene oxide ~~having~~ has a molecular weight from about 100 kd to about 5,000 kd.

40. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 ~~wherein the composition~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising an inorganic filler.

41. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 40, wherein the inorganic filler is ~~selected from the group consisting of high surface area~~ alumina ~~and high surface area~~ or silica.

42. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 ~~wherein the ionically conductive polymeric composition~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising plasticizer salts.

43-48 Cancelled.